

sented. Not even the German was neglected. On March 8, 1919, as the women were serving a train whose men did not de-train, one man said, as a basket of candy was handed to him through the window, "You wouldn't serve us would you, if you knew who we are? We are German prisoners." Still holding the basket before him, the canteen worker replied, "Well, at any rate, you are a human being." Possibly no one set of men were served more heartily than a train of Belgian soldiers who passed through Raleigh on Sunday, April 20, 1919. How pleasantly these men are remembered, with their ruddy complexions, clear brown eyes, and happy smiles. How eagerly they received the bunches of fresh spring violets and big yellow oranges! And how they laughed at the chattering girls who, unable to converse with them; could only laugh in response. On July 17, 1919, came a train in two sections, bearing more than a thousand men, the saddest lot—their own sick and wounded not excepted—the canteen workers were ever called upon to serve. They were the Czecho-Slovaks returning from service in Siberia by way of America to their devasated homeland, having been absent five years and without news from home for three years. Every effort was made to cheer them with the Red Cross spirit, while they could express their gratitude for the iced-tea, sandwiches, bananas, and cigarettes, only by looks, for not one of them could speak a word of English.

For fourteen months the Raleigh Canteen rendered its service without cost to the Chapter. The cost averaged \$500 per month, but the liberal donations from the canteen workers themselves, the generous gifts of the people of Wake County, and of neighboring chapters which were without opportunities for such service, made the "Free Service to Troops" of small cost to the Chapter. Carloads of watermelons, home-made jellies and preserves, great blocks of ice for cold drinks, and every other kind of refreshing food were served, but sandwiches and coffee proved the most popular.

The Canteen enrolled 200 women and girls, about 150 of whom were active. The Boy Scouts under the leadership of Mr. Ezra Meyers, rendered valuable service. Mr. T. C. Powell gave the Canteen almost daily help, while Mr. C. B. Denson and Mr. M. R. Haynes were on hand every Sunday. Mr. Charles D. Farmer, Chief of the Raleigh Fire Department, and his firemen were called at all hours, and always gave ready response. The Seaboard Air Line Dispatchers kept the Canteen informed of the arrival of troop trains, and the men in the office patiently bore the many calls upon them regarding the movement of troops.